[16th March 1929

Mr. P. Anjaneyulu :—" Sir, there are some wells the genesis of which nobody knows but they are now being maintained by the public or the local bodies. May I know in what class are these wells included ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" They are classed under public wells."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" Do not Government consider that under the present circumstances it will be beneficial to issue instructions to local officers to do propaganda work in this behalf, to make the people realize their responsibility and duty towards the depressed classes ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" The valuable suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered by Government when the time comes."

Medical

Number of honorary physicians and surgeons in the City.

* 1764 *Q.*—Dr. B. S. Mallayya : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of honorary physicians and surgeons working in the Government hospitals in the City of Madras ;

(*b*) how this system has worked so far ;

(*c*) whether there is any proposal to extend that system ; and

(*d*) if so, when the Government propose to do so ?

A.—(*a*) Three physicians and four surgeons.

(*b*) A summary [a] of the latest reports received from the Superintendents of the hospitals is laid on the table.

(*c*) & (*d*) The Government have decided to extend the system to the district headquarter hospitals and details of this are being worked out.

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" May I know what amount of work is being done by these seven honorary independent medical officers ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" It is not possible to calculate their services in terms of rupees, annas and pies."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that these seven medical officers have done the same amount of work that is done by the seven I.M.S. officers and would have cost Government only a lakh and twenty-five thousand rupees a year ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" The hon. Member seems to be in possession of more information than Government are."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" Why is this system not extended in this city ; and some of these I. M.S. officers replaced by these men in the city ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" The system is existing in the City and further extension will be considered. It is to be extended to the mufassal also."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya :—" I should like to know if the system is working well, why Government have not increased the number of honorary medical officers to replace the paid officers as far as possible ? "

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 308-309 infra.

16th March 1929]

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The question of replacement of paid officers is another matter ; the honorary officers are going to be increased."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" With regard to the Maternity Hospital, the Superintendent says that the work of the honorary surgeon is quite satisfactory, 'He has shown great keenness in his work and has pulled on with the staff exceedingly well. He has not done any serious teaching but this can be arranged if desired.' Am I to understand 'if desired' means if desired by the surgeon ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Yes, Sir."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Then may I know why does this Superintendent not give him teaching work ? The complaint is the superintendent refused to give teaching work even though the honorary surgeon was prepared to do teaching work."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" If he expresses the desire to teach I shall see he is given teaching work."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether Government propose to reduce the strength of the permanent establishment ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" That is a matter to be settled after we have watched the working of this system in the district hospitals."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Sir, the Superintendent says in the Ophthalmic Hospital the work of the honorary men interferes with the team work. Is it not possible to provide another operation table, when the cost of the operation table is only sixty rupees."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" But the staff and other things cost more."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" If the honorary men are prepared to do the work is it not desirable to provide them with instruments, apparatus and appliances ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" If it will reduce the cost appreciably, it will be considered."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know what will be the work of these honorary men ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" They will do the same work which the paid men now do. The hon. Member knows that the present staff in the hospitals is in several places inadequate."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Sir, if the work of the honorary surgeon interferes with the team work will it not be possible to fix the time of each team ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The energy of the staff is not inexhaustible."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Sir, in the Rayapuram Hospital, who is this Superintendent who makes this inconsistent statement ? He says 'it is doubtful whether the system has fulfilled its purpose.' But higher up he says 'They have done their duty with zeal and interest.' This man seems

[16th March 1929

to me to be nearly spent and incapable of any useful work, and so I think he should retire and a younger man with the necessary interest and tact should be appointed."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is making a valuable speech." (Laughter.)

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Is it the intention of Government to send these honorary men only to hospitals where the work of the paid men is heavy ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The present idea is to post all these people to all the hospitals. These men will be utilized for relieving them."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" So am I to understand that the present work is to be divided between these two sets of officers ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Yes."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" In the General Hospital why not Government increase the number of honorary men and give them teaching work ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know whether they are willing to undertake teaching work. These are matters which require notice."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Sir, in the appendix it is stated thus. 'The honorary physician has charge of 32 beds. Occasionally he gives a clinical lecture to students but he has no responsible position in the teaching staff of the college. With a man of the qualifications and the character of the present incumbent, the system has worked satisfactorily'. May I know, in view of these remarks, why the responsible position of teaching is not given ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The suggestion will be considered."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" What is the object of Government in appointing these Honoraries."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I think this scheme has been working for the last seven years."

Public Health

Prevention of malaria in jungle areas.

* 1765 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to question No. 503 answered on 10th October 1928, regarding the prevention of malaria prevailing in jungle areas, will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any report on the further investigations into the causes of malaria has been received ; and

(*b*) what action has been taken thereon ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have received the reports of the Special Malaria Officer on his malaria survey in Vedaranniyam in Tanjore district, Palni Municipality and Talamanchipatnam